

intermediate member provided at a contact portion between the enlarged diameter part of the bolt and the axial end portion of the stator core, the intermediate member being softer than the enlarged diameter part of the bolt, wherein the intermediate member is deformed at a contact portion with the enlarged diameter part by being pressed with the bolt in the axial direction, as recited in claims 1-3. Additionally, Bozsvai does not disclose a rotary electric machine, comprising a stator core fit in the housing in contact with the inner periphery of the wall, an outer peripheral part of one axial end of the stator core being in direct-contact with the step of the housing ... and an intermediate member interposed between the enlarged part of the bolt and the outer peripheral part of the another axial end of the stator core, the intermediate member being deformable by being pressed with the enlarged head part in the axial direction, as recited in claim 7.

Rather, Bozsvai discloses a tachometer having a rotor that rotates with the shaft in a cooperating stator. The stator includes a stator core, permanent magnets and a winding with the magnets encapsulated in a hardened plastic to waterproof the winding. (Abstract of Bozsvai). The complete stator includes the hardened plastic 35 which "completely encapsulates and waterproofs the winding means 34 and also completely encapsulates and waterproofs the magnets 33". The hardened plastic also generally encases the laminated stator core 32 except that the pole tips 38 of the poles 37 may be exposed in the air gap for cooperation with the external salient teeth of the rotor 14. The hardened plastic may be of any suitable type of a resinoid, such as a thermosetting resin or epoxy resin which will set to a hard state to encase and physically support and protect the components of the stator (col. 3, lines 34-56).

Accordingly, the hardened plastic 35 performs the three functions of encapsulating and waterproofing the stator and primarily the winding means 34, the rabbet fit of shoulders 23 and 55 establishes the concentricity of the rotor and stator, and the physical mounting or

fastening of the entire tachometer by means of the bolts 42 (col. 4, lines 24-29). As such, the stator in Bozsvai is not fixed by being sandwiched between the frame and the bolt head.

Furthermore, as Bozsvai discloses a hardened plastic, such as a thermosetting resin or epoxy resin, to encase and physically support the components of the stator, the hardened plastic 35 is not deformed by the bolt 42. Furthermore, if the hardened plastic were deformed, coaxiality of the stator core, with respect to the shaft of the rotor could not be maintained. Thus, Bozsvai does not disclose all of the features recited in claims 1-3 and 7. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully request rejection of claims 1-3 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 4-6, 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,696,415 to Fujimoto et al. (Fujimoto). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant asserts that Fujimoto does not disclose a rotary electric machine, comprising a stator core disposing housing ... wherein the stator core has a cavity at a radially outermost axial end portion of the stator core, and the enlarged diameter part contacts the stator core in the cavity.

In contrast, Fujimoto discloses the front frame supports 50 having threaded holes 51 as shown in Fig. 1, and the rear frame supports 60 having recesses 61, as shown in Fig. 3, to receive washer-based nuts 22a, and through holes 62 for receiving the rear portions of the through bolts 22. The front frame 5 and the rear frame 6 are fastened by a plurality of through bolts 22 and nuts 23 (col. 3, lines 19-24).

However, Fujimoto does not disclose the stator having a cavity at a radially outermost axial end portion of the stator core, wherein the enlarged diameter part contacts the stator core in the cavity. Rather, Fujimoto is silent as to any cavity or recess formed in the stator core. Accordingly, Fujimoto does not disclose all of the features recited in claims 4-6, 8 and

9. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests the rejection of claims 4-6, 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application is requested. It is submitted that the claims as presented herein patentably distinguish over the applied references and fully meets the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Accordingly, allowance of claims 1-11 is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, she is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Appendix
Amendment Transmittal

Date: November 12, 2002

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<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>

APPENDIX

Changes to Claims:

Claims 10 and 11 are added.

The following is a marked-up version of the amended claims:

1. (Amended) A rotary electric machine, comprising:
 - a housing;
 - a stator core disposed in the housing;
 - a bolt having an enlarged diameter part for fixing the stator core to the housingby pressing one axial end portion of the stator core by the enlarged diameter part; and
an intermediate member provided at a contact portion between the enlarged diameter part of the bolt and the axial end portion of the stator core, the intermediate member being softer than the enlarged diameter part of the bolt, wherein the intermediate member is deformed at a contact portion with the enlarged diameter part by being pressed with the bolt in the axial direction.
4. (Amended) A rotary electric machine, comprising:
 - a housing;
 - a stator core disposed in the housing; and
 - a bolt having an enlarged diameter part for fixing the stator core to the housingby pressing one axial end portion of the stator core by the enlarged diameter part, wherein the stator core has a cavity ~~at a contact portion between the enlarged diameter part and the axial end portion of the stator core~~ at a radially outermost axial end portion of the stator core, and the enlarged diameter part contacts the stator core in the cavity.
7. (Amended) A rotary electric machine, comprising:

a housing having a cylindrical wall in which a bolt hole is formed in an axial direction inside an inner periphery of the wall, the housing having a step on the inner periphery at an axial end side;

a stator core fit in the housing in contact with the inner periphery of the wall, an outer peripheral part of one axial end of the stator core being in direct-contact with the step of the housing;

a bolt threaded into the bolt hole and having an enlarged head part which presses an outer peripheral part of another axial end of the stator core in the axial direction; and

an intermediate member interposed between the enlarged part of the bolt and the outer peripheral part of the another axial end of the stator core, the intermediate member being deformable by being pressed with the enlarged head part in the axial direction.